



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

# News Release

October 19, 2005

## **MAN WANTED FOR EMBEZZLING MILLIONS FROM GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT ARRESTED BY ICE IN LOS ANGELES**

*Suspect is son of country's former customs chief who is jailed in Guatemala on related charges*

LOS ANGELES – The son of Guatemala's former customs director, who is accused of conspiring with his father to embezzle millions of dollars from that country's government, is facing deportation following his arrest yesterday by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents in Los Angeles.



Junior Vinicio Abadio-Carrillo, 32, was taken into custody by ICE agents Tuesday in Glendale on immigration violations. Abadio is wanted in Guatemala on embezzlement and money laundering charges for his role in a scheme that allegedly led to the theft of more than \$5 million from that country's government. ICE agents say Abadio apparently entered the United States illegally last year and has been living in Glendale since his arrival.

"This is another stellar example of how ICE is working with law enforcement agencies around the globe to deter serious crime," said Loraine Brown, special agent-in-charge for ICE investigations in Los Angeles. "This arrest should send a strong signal to fugitives that we will not allow our international borders to be barriers to bringing criminals to justice."

Junior's father, Marco Tulio Abadio-Molina, served for one year under former Guatemalan President Alfonso Portillo as head of the "*Superintendencia Administracion Tributaria*" or SAT, the agency that administers the nation's import taxes. The elder Abadio has been jailed in Guatemala since last year on criminal charges stemming from the embezzlement allegations.

Junior Abadio is being held without bond by ICE pending a hearing before an immigration judge. In the meantime, ICE's attaché office in Guatemala City is serving as a liaison between law enforcement officials in Guatemala and ICE investigators in Los Angeles.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*